



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

***Raised Bill No. 1079***

LCO No. 3812

\* \_\_\_\_SB01079JUD\_\_050107\_\_ \*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING DOGS THAT ATTACK DOMESTIC ANIMALS  
OR LIVESTOCK.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-358 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

3 (a) Any owner or the agent of any owner of any domestic animal or  
4 poultry, or the Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control  
5 officer or any municipal animal control officer, regional animal control  
6 officer or any police officer or state policeman, may kill any dog which  
7 he observes pursuing or worrying any such domestic animal or  
8 poultry.

9 (b) Any person who is bitten, or who shows visible evidence of  
10 attack by a dog, cat or other animal when such person is not upon the  
11 premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal may  
12 kill such dog, cat or other animal during such attack. Such person shall  
13 make complaint concerning the circumstances of the attack to the Chief  
14 Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer or the municipal  
15 animal control officer or regional animal control officer of the town

16 wherein such dog, cat or other animal is owned or kept. Any such  
17 officer to whom such complaint is made shall immediately make an  
18 investigation of such complaint.

19 (c) If such officer finds that the complainant has been bitten or  
20 attacked by such dog, cat or other animal when the complainant was  
21 not upon the premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other  
22 animal the officer shall quarantine such dog, cat or other animal in a  
23 public pound or order the owner or keeper to quarantine it in a  
24 veterinary hospital, kennel or other building or enclosure approved by  
25 the commissioner for such purpose. When any dog, cat or other animal  
26 has bitten a person on the premises of the owner or keeper of such  
27 dog, cat or other animal, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal  
28 control officer, any municipal animal control officer or regional animal  
29 control officer may quarantine such dog, cat or other animal on the  
30 premises of the owner or keeper of such dog, cat or other animal. The  
31 commissioner, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control  
32 officer, any municipal animal control officer or any regional animal  
33 control officer may make any order concerning the restraint or  
34 disposal of any biting dog, cat or other animal as the commissioner or  
35 such officer deems necessary. Notice of any such order shall be given  
36 to the person bitten by such dog, cat or other animal within twenty-  
37 four hours. The owner of such animal shall pay all fees as set forth in  
38 section 22-333. On the fourteenth day of such quarantine the dog, cat  
39 or other animal shall be examined by the commissioner or someone  
40 designated by the commissioner to determine whether such quarantine  
41 shall be continued or removed. Whenever any quarantine is ordered  
42 under the provisions of this section, notice thereof shall be given to the  
43 commissioner and to the person bitten or attacked by such dog, cat or  
44 other animal within twenty-four hours. Any owner or keeper of such  
45 dog, cat or other animal who fails to comply with such order shall be  
46 fined not more than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more  
47 than thirty days or both. If an owner or keeper fails to comply with a  
48 quarantine or restraining order made pursuant to this subsection, the  
49 Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control officer, any

50 municipal animal control officer or regional animal control officer may  
51 seize the dog, cat or other animal to insure such compliance and the  
52 owner or keeper shall be responsible for any expenses resulting from  
53 such seizure. Any person aggrieved by an order of any municipal  
54 animal control officer, the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal  
55 control officer or any regional animal control officer may request a  
56 hearing before the commissioner within fourteen days of the issuance  
57 of such order. After such hearing, the commissioner may affirm,  
58 modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems proper. Any  
59 dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its political  
60 subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this subsection when  
61 such dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an  
62 assigned police officer, has been vaccinated annually and is subject to  
63 routine veterinary care.

64 (d) Any dog, while actually worrying or pursuing deer, may be  
65 killed by the Chief Animal Control Officer or an animal control officer  
66 or by a conservation officer or special conservation officer appointed  
67 by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or by any police  
68 officer or state policeman. The owner or keeper of any dog found  
69 worrying or pursuing a deer shall be fined not less than twenty-five  
70 dollars nor more than two hundred dollars or imprisoned not more  
71 than sixty days or both.

72 (e) Any person who kills any dog, cat or other animal in accordance  
73 with the provisions of this section shall not be held criminally or civilly  
74 liable therefor.

75 (f) The owner of any dog, cat or other animal which has bitten or  
76 attacked a person and has been quarantined pursuant to subsection (c)  
77 of this section may authorize the humane euthanization of such dog,  
78 cat or other animal by a licensed veterinarian at any time before the  
79 end of the fourteenth day of such quarantine. Any such dog, cat or  
80 other animal so euthanized before the end of the fourteenth day of  
81 quarantine shall be examined for rabies by the Connecticut  
82 Department of Public Health virology laboratory or any other

83 laboratory authorized by the Department of Public Health to perform  
84 rabies examinations. The veterinarian performing the euthanasia shall  
85 be responsible for ensuring that the head of the euthanized animal is  
86 delivered by him or his designated agent within forty-eight hours to an  
87 appropriate laboratory designated by said department for rabies  
88 examination.

89 (g) Repealed by P.A. 05-175, S. 24.

90 (h) A person who sustains damage by a dog to such person's  
91 poultry, ratite, domestic rabbit, companion animal or livestock as  
92 defined in section 22-278 shall make complaint concerning  
93 circumstances of the attack by such dog on any such animal or  
94 livestock to the Chief Animal Control Officer, any animal control  
95 officer or the municipal animal control officer or regional animal  
96 control officer of the town in which such dog is owned or kept. An  
97 officer to whom such complaint is made shall immediately investigate  
98 such complaint. If such officer finds that the complainant's animal has  
99 been bitten or attacked by a dog when the attacked animal was not on  
100 the premises of the owner or keeper of the attacking dog and provided  
101 the complainant's animal was under the control of the complainant or  
102 on the complainant's property, such officer, the commissioner, the  
103 Chief Animal Control Officer or any animal control officer may make  
104 any order concerning the restraint or disposal of such attacking dog as  
105 the commissioner or such officer deems necessary. An owner or keeper  
106 of such dog who fails to comply with such order shall be fined not  
107 more than two hundred fifty dollars or imprisoned not more than  
108 thirty days, or both. If the owner or keeper of such dog fails to comply  
109 with an order made pursuant to this subsection, the Chief Animal  
110 Control Officer or any animal control officer, municipal animal control  
111 officer or regional animal control officer may seize the dog to ensure  
112 such compliance, and the owner or keeper of such dog shall be  
113 responsible for any expenses resulting from such seizure. A person  
114 aggrieved by an order of the Chief Animal Control Officer or any  
115 animal control officer, municipal animal control officer or regional  
116 animal control officer made pursuant to this subsection may request a

117 hearing before the commissioner not later than fourteen days after the  
118 issuance of such order. After such hearing, the commissioner may  
119 affirm, modify or revoke such order as the commissioner deems  
120 proper. A dog owned by a police agency of the state or any of its  
121 political subdivisions is exempt from the provisions of this section  
122 when such dog is under the direct supervision, care and control of an  
123 assigned police officer, has been vaccinated annually and is subject to  
124 routine veterinary care.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	22-358
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***ENV***      *Joint Favorable*

***PD***        *Joint Favorable*

***JUD***        *Joint Favorable*